



Pulaski County Citizen Newsletter

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Contact us at: 540-980-7705

A publication of the Pulaski County Board of Supervisors
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Change to New River Voting Location

The New River Precinct in Pulaski County is changing to a new location this November. The Polling Site has been moved from the Fairlawn Fire Department to the new Riverlawn Elementary School. Voting will occur in the Community Room.

The Riverlawn Elementary School is located at 8100 Beth Nelson Drive in Fairlawn. Directions to the school are: At the intersection of Route 114 and Viscoe Road, take a right at the traffic light onto Viscoe Road. Take the next right onto Beth Nelson Drive. Voter parking will be in the parking lots on your left in front of the school. After entering the front door of the School, the Community Room will be on your right.

New Voter Cards have been mailed to Registered Voters in the New River and Fairlawn area. If you have not received a new voter card with the new information, or if you have any questions or need more information, please call the Voter Registration Office at 540-980-2111 or e-mail Kathy Webb, General Registrar, at kwebb@pulaskicounty.org.

Ready Pulaski

The Pulaski County Department of Emergency Management would like to remind all of its citizens and businesses that September 2009 is ***National Preparedness Month***. We are encouraging all of our citizens and businesses to be prepared for all types of emergencies and disasters. Each of us has a responsibility to do our part to be prepared and to be able to take

care of ourselves and our families for the first ***72 hours*** after a disaster strikes. Three simple steps can help you and your family to be better prepared: 1) *Get a kit*; 2) *Make a plan*; and 3) *Be informed*. Every family should have these items on hand - three days food that won't spoil, such as canned goods and packaged foods, three days water (one gallon per person per day), a battery-powered radio with Weather Band and extra batteries, and a written family emergency plan.

Pulaski Fest – October 3^d

Pulaskifest is a family friendly, fun-filled day featuring entertainment, arts and crafts vendors, local authors, a farmers market, flea market, free health clinics, and much more. Pulaskifest 2009 is on October 3, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., in downtown Pulaski, at Jackson Park. Spaces are still available for arts, crafts, and food vendors. Pulaskifest 2009 is being sponsored by The Town of Pulaski, Coffee Buy The Book, CWI Media & Marketing, Anderson & Associates, Crabtree Associates, and BB&T. Scheduled to appear are:

10:30 a.m.	Kazoobie Kazoo Show
11:30 a.m.	Great American Disc Dogs
12:00 noon	The Traditions
1:00 p.m.	Little Switzerland Cloggers
2:30 p.m.	Kazoobie Kazoo Show
3:30 p.m.	Great American Disc Dogs
4:00 p.m.	The Traditions

Attending this year's festival is the pop culture iconic vehicle the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile. Kids activities include: moonbounce, sumo suits, spin art, and sky bikes.

Is your house number visible?

In order to save life and property, it is very important to have your house number visible from the street. In many instances, the quick response of a public safety agency is the difference between life and death. In the case of an emergency, a visible house number allows Fire, EMS, and law enforcement to find your home more efficiently without losing precious time searching for your home. The county ordinance states that structures should be numbered under one of the following scenarios: 1) Structures with mailboxes shall have ½" letters affixed to the mailbox, 2) Structures without mailboxes and are within 75 feet of the street – 3" letters should be affixed to the structure, or 3) Structures without mailboxes and are more than 75 feet from the street – 3" letters should be affixed on a post at the street.

Online "Live Chat" Service to Taxpayers

The Virginia Dept. of Taxation recently introduced "Live Chat", a new service that lets taxpayers communicate online in real time with the department's Tax representatives regarding state income tax or other state tax issues. All taxpayers need to do to connect with a live person is to click on the Live Chat logo, which is located throughout the agency's website. The website address is: www.tax.virginia.gov and click online services. Taxpayers can also ask general tax questions or specifically about their accounts.

Live Chat also offers extended service hours and even availability on Saturday mornings. It is available from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on weekdays and from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturdays.

H1N1 Info

Controlling the spread of this virus is everyone's responsibility. Those most susceptible to it are school children and younger adults. Help protect yourself, your family, and community by having children receive the seasonal flu vaccine and get the H1N1 vaccine when it becomes available, wash your hands frequently (alcohol based hand sanitizers are also effective), cover your mouth (not with your hands) during sneezes or coughs, and stay at home if you have flu symptoms so don't be in too much of a hurry to return to work or school unless you are without fever for 24 hours. For more info contact the health department at www.vdh.virginia.gov or 1-877-275-8343.

Alert Pulaski

Pulaski County, in partnership with Twenty First Century Communications, Inc., has instituted an alert system to send telephone notifications to residents and businesses within Pulaski County impacted by, or in danger of being impacted by, an emergency or disaster. This system, called AlertPulaski, will be used by emergency response personnel to notify those homes and businesses at risk with information on the event and/or actions (such as evacuation) we are asking them to take. The system utilizes the 911 database, provided by the local telephone company, and thus is able to contact land-line telephones whether listed or unlisted. If the call is picked up by an answering machine, the system will leave a voice message. If the telephone called is busy or does not answer, the system will redial that number up to three times in an attempt to deliver the message.

Because the system uses the 9-1-1 database, only land-line numbers are in the system. If you have a cell phone or Voice over IP (VoIP) and would like to be notified over that device, or if you would like an email notification, you must register those telephone numbers and/or email address for use by the system. Please register by visiting www.pulaskicounty.org and click on Alert Pulaski.

Newbern Fall Arts & Crafts Festival

October 10th and 11th – 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. For general info please call the Wilderness Road Museum at 674-4835 or call 639-0312.

Caregiver Conference and Resource Fair – New River Community College at Edwards Hall – October 31, 2009 8:00 am – 3:30 pm

Are you a caregiver? You are if you provide care to an older adult or person with disabilities. Whether you are a spouse, child, relative or friend, you will not want to miss this important event.

Superintendent Criteria: A Survey for the Pulaski County School Board

The Pulaski County School Board encourages the citizens of Pulaski County to participate in the following survey related to superintendent criteria as the board begins the process of selecting a new leader for the school system. You may complete the survey on the school system's website at www.pcva.us, you may return this survey with your PSA payment, or can mail it directly to: Superintendent Survey, P.O. Box 2474, Pulaski, VA 24301.

Paul Phillips, Chairman, Pulaski County School Board

Survey

Education and Training (Check qualifications that you think are necessary for a superintendent.)

	Required	Preferred	Not Important
1. An earned doctorate	_____	_____	_____
2. Experience as a:			
Superintendent	_____	_____	_____
Associate/Asst. Superintendent	_____	_____	_____
Central Office Administrator	_____	_____	_____
Principal	_____	_____	_____
CEO other than school district	_____	_____	_____
3. Teaching experience			
High school level	_____	_____	_____
Elementary level	_____	_____	_____
4. Work experience in Virginia	_____	_____	_____
5. Residency in the school division	_____	_____	_____

Leadership/Management Skills (Rank your top three priorities for a superintendent.)

_____	Writing and speaking ability	_____	Decisive leader
_____	Risk taker	_____	High community profile
_____	Visionary, creative thinker	_____	Motivator
_____	Organized, efficient	_____	Analytical, relies on data
_____	Facilitates consensus among groups		
_____	Team player, comfortable with shared decision-making		

Personal Characteristics (Rank your three most desired traits for a new superintendent.)

_____	Sense of humor	_____	Confident
_____	Enthusiastic	_____	Good listener, accessible
_____	Works "behind the scenes"	_____	Intellectual
_____	Consistent	_____	Patient
_____	Creative	_____	Caring
_____	Influential		

Board-Superintendent Relations (Rank your top three priorities.)

_____	Understands differences between policy and administration and acts accordingly
_____	Can lead the Board in goal-setting and planning
_____	Effectively mediates and accommodates different perspectives
_____	Willing to assume a lead role in decision-making while keeping Board informed

- _____ Provides options and recommendations to Board before accepting Board directives
- _____ Presents a "united front" to staff and community

Staff Relations (Rank your top three priorities.)

- _____ Has a process for recruiting and selection top-quality staff members
- _____ Maintains open channels of communication to and from staff
- _____ Knows the law concerning personnel policies and procedures
- _____ Sets a good example for staff members
- _____ Evaluates staff fairly and effectively
- _____ Creates an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect
- _____ Effectively delegates tasks and responsibilities
- _____ Supports staff development activities and encourages professional growth

Community Relations (Rank your top three priorities.)

- _____ Relates well to a variety of community groups
- _____ Effectively advocates school issues and needs
- _____ Responds to individual concerns in appropriate manner
- _____ Successfully handles press coverage
- _____ Communicates effectively on both private and public levels
- _____ Promotes business and community involvement in schools
- _____ Inspires community confidence

School Finance (Rank your top three priorities)

- _____ Develops and explains rationale for budget to the Board and local officials
- _____ Closely supervises budget development and procedures
- _____ Forecasts changes in enrollment and/or revenue
- _____ Offers creative funding solutions
- _____ Identifies programs for increased funding and/or budget cuts
- _____ Lobbies for school funding on behalf of the school division

Areas of Expertise (Rank the top three areas of expertise that you prefer in a new superintendent.)

- _____ Budget and Finance
- _____ Curriculum and instruction
- _____ School facility planning and construction
- _____ Technology
- _____ Increasing/declining enrollment
- _____ School reform (e.g. strategic planning, total quality management, etc.)
- _____ Special education
- _____ Multi-cultural programs
- _____ Staff development and evaluation
- _____ Community/media relations
- _____ Support services
- _____ Business partnerships
- _____ Other _____

- What is the one talent or skill that the new superintendent should have to do this job well?
- What is the first issue that, in your opinion, the new superintendent should deal with?

Which of the following categories best represents you as a respondent? **Please check only one.**

- ___ Parent ___ Civic organization member ___ Social organization member
- ___ School teacher ___ School administrator ___ School employee
- ___ PTA/PTO member ___ Chamber of Commerce member or business
- ___ Other